



J. Thomas Rhodes, Sr.

June 6, 1918 - September 25, 2008

QUEENSTOWN, MD: James Thomas Rhodes, Sr. of Queenstown, MD died at Corsica Hills Nursing Home, Centreville, MD on Thursday, September 25, 2008. He was 90.

Tom was born June 6, 1918, on the "Farm Beverly" located at the rear of St. Peter's Church property near Queenstown, MD. The son of Louis Kennard and Florence Estelle McConnor Rhodes, he attended Queenstown Elementary School and graduated from Centreville High School in 1935. He served with the 29th Division Infantry from April 30, 1941, until his discharge from the service in April, 1945. During this period he participated in D Day, June 16, 1944, as well as the capture of St. Lo on July 18, 1944, for which he was awarded the Purple Heart and the Bronze Medal. He was the youngest of three brothers who served in WWII. He married Ruth Lauretta Hall, daughter of Theobald and Sarah Catherine Redman Hall of Church Hill, MD, on September 8, 1945, at St. Peter's Catholic Church near Queenstown, MD.

After serving as manager of Wilson Feed Company, Centreville, MD for 14 years, Tom then owned and operated Rhodes Market in Queenstown for 3 years. He worked as U.S. Postal rural mail carrier out of the Queenstown Post Office from 1963-1980 at which time he retired. Upon the death of his father in 1968, the family moved to the Rhodes farm, "Bennett's Outlet", and Tom operated the farm. One of the many things he enjoyed was curing country

hams. He participated in farm and community groups, always willing to lend a helping hand. In 1995 his farm received the Century Farm Award from the Governor of Maryland recognizing the fact that the farm had been in the same family for over 100 years and was still being farmed by the Rhodes family.

Tom was a member of the American Legion Post #278, VFW Post #7464, past president of the Queenstown Lions Club, a member and usher at St. Peters Catholic Church, and past member of the Mail Carriers Association. He always enjoyed the deer hunters' breakfasts and the pigs feet dinners with family and friends.

In addition to his wife, Laretta, he is survived by four children: Peggy Rhodes Yates Stanley and husband, Michael; Ann Rhodes Haymaker and husband, Joe; James T. "Tommy" Rhodes, Jr., and wife, Cindy; and William "Billy" K. Rhodes and wife, Charlene; and six grandchildren, Philip G. Yates and wife, Jennifer; J. Brett Yates and wife, Pam; Heather Rhodes Comegys and husband, Willie; Steven W. Rhodes, Jason K. Rhodes and Michael T. Rhodes and two great grandchildren, Parker Michelle Yates and Payton Elizabeth Yates; one brother, Dr. Harry C. Rhodes and wife, Creighton; one sister, Margaret R. Brantley and his nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by two brothers, L. Kennard Rhodes, Jr., and William W. Rhodes.

Funeral services will be held at St. Peters Catholic Church, Queenstown, MD, on Monday, September 29, 2008, at 2:00 PM. Pallbearers will be Philip G. Yates, J. Brett Yates, Heather R. Comegys, Steven W. Rhodes, Jason K. Rhodes, and Michael T. Rhodes; honorary pallbearers are Jimmy Walls, Frank Jewell, and Rick Brantley.

Friends and family may call at the Fellows, Helfenbein and Newnam Funeral Home, P. A., Centreville on Sunday, September 28, 2008, from 3:00 to 6:00

PM. The family requests that in lieu of flowers memorial contributions be made to Queenstown Fire Company, P.O. Box 118, Queenstown, MD, 21658 or St. Peter's Catholic Church Cemetery Trust Fund; Attention: Julie, 303 Chesterfield Ave., Centreville, MD, 21617.

Previous Events

Service

SEP **29**. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Peter the Apostle Catholic Church
5319 Ocean Gateway
Queenstown, MD

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of J. Thomas Rhodes, Sr.* ”



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - September 25, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *J. Thomas Rhodes, Sr.* ”

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *J. Thomas Rhodes, Sr.* ”

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *J. Thomas Rhodes, Sr.* ”

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ Dear Peggy and family,
It was with great sadness that we heard of your dad's passing. What wonderful memories you have to always cherish. Your dad was a wonderful man and well liked by many especially us. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Chuck & Joyce Groh##imported-end##

September 30, 2008 at 02:19 PM



“ Peggy, Ann, Tommy and Billy: My heart goes out to you at this difficult time. I miss seeing you at Homestead but I do see Aunt Punky on my visits. I will be remembering you in my thoughts and prayers. Nancy Holleny##imported-begin##nancy holleny##imported-end##

September 29, 2008 at 06:55 PM



“ Billy, Tommy and family,

I am so sorry to hear of your father's death. I have just returned to the Kent Island area to live, and saw the notice in today's paper, if I had known I would have attended the service. Your dad (and mom) were always so kind to me in my high school days, when I came to the farm. I have many wonderful memories from times at their dining table. May God hold you in his loving hands as you grieve. Your whole family is in my thoughts and prayers.
Patti Kelly##imported-begin##Patti Kelly (Smith)##imported-end##

September 29, 2008 at 03:27 PM



“ Deepest sympathy to the family. May you find strength in knowing that Mr. Tommy live a very full life.##imported-begin##Donald & Vivian McClyment##imported-end##

September 29, 2008 at 10:45 AM



“ To the Rhodes family: Our close family friendship through the years has us sharing in your sorrow with the passing of such a wonderful man. So many memories we have, of both good times and bad, that we have helped each other through, including all the "Jeff and Billy Adventures". Our love, thoughts and prayers are with you all now and in the weeks to come. JoAnn and Royden Powell##imported-begin##JoAnn Powell##imported-end##

September 29, 2008 at 09:58 AM



“ Also I wanted to add, I'll always remember the talks we had about farming, when he stopped on his mail delivery route. Tim Bishop##imported-begin##Tim and Laura Bishop##imported-end##

September 29, 2008 at 09:46 AM



“ To the Rhodes Family:

We are so sorry to hear about your Father. Your family are in our thoughts and prayers. God Bless All.

Tim and Laura Bishop##imported-begin##Tim and Laura Bishop##imported-end##

September 29, 2008 at 09:31 AM



“ *Peggy and Rhodes Family: Peggy I was so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing. I know he was loved dearly and will be missed. My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family at this difficult time.*
Connie Todd###imported-begin##Connie Todd###imported-end##

September 29, 2008 at 09:18 AM



“ *Peggy,*

*We are so sorry to hear about your dad.
You and your family are in our thoughts and prayers.*

*Love,
Gary and Wanda###imported-begin##Gary and Wanda
Stanley###imported-end##*

September 28, 2008 at 11:52 PM



“ *To all of the family - Mr. Rhodes is now in a better place - God rest his soul. As you must know, my Father will miss him greatly since they enjoyed a life-long friendship. Daddy always chuckled that Mr. Rhodes nicknamed him "Elmo". Daddy, Terry and I much admired your family's dedication to caring for your Father, as well as your Mother. I know your frequent visits brightened his days at the nursing home. The family visits certainly brightened my Father's days as he continues to care for my Mother.###imported-begin##Elmer Whitby, Kay and Terry Zerwick###imported-end##*

September 28, 2008 at 11:22 AM



“ Dear Laretta and family,
I know this is a difficult time for all of you, but we wanted you to know our thoughts and prayers are with each one of you. You have such wonderful memories of Tommy.

June and David##imported-begin##June and David
Clark##imported-end##

September 27, 2008 at 10:58 AM



“ To the family: Our hearts are saddened in the loss of Uncle Tommy. How many good times did our families have together and there were many laughs. They were always Uncle Tommy and Aunt Punkie to me since the day I was born and will always be that way. He and daddy sure had many good and bad times raising their hogs on Route 18, but we always had plenty of meat for our freezers. We know he is not suffering anymore and has gone to be with the Good Lord. I enjoyed visiting him at the nursing home, but most of all, his visits to daddy while daddy was in the nursing home, sure made daddy's day. He would always say "Dusty has been here and brought me bananas. We had a wonderful chat and Punkie was getting her head done". He will always be remembered in our hearts and for the many deeds he did for others. God Bless each of you and our prayers are with you at this time. Love, Lynda and Gene Palmatary##imported-begin##Lynda H. Palmatary##imported-end##

September 26, 2008 at 09:36 PM



“ I was saddened to hear about Mr. Tommy's death, but know in my heart he has gained eternal life. My memories span over my entire life as he and Ms. Laretta have known me since my birth. My parents certainly knew what they were doing when they asked them to be my Godparents. One of my best memories of when I was very young, was in the winter when it would snow, he would pull us around town- Mr. Tommy driving the pick-up and all us neighborhood kids hitched to the back on sleds. I will also remember him giving me pointers when this little town girl bought a little farm near Crumpton. I knew nothing about farm living, other than my one summer experience with Asgrow Seed, so I listened to him and made out just fine on my little farm. My love and thoughts are with all of you as you have always been like my second family. Jane Anthony###imported-begin##Jane Anthony###imported-end##

September 26, 2008 at 03:52 PM



“ It was with great sadness that I heard of Mr. Tommy's passing. Another of Queenstown's wonderful patriarchs has gone. What wonderful memories all of us have to cherish of Mr. Tommy. My deepest sympathy goes out to the entire Rhodes family.###imported-begin##Brenda Anthony Tryon###imported-end##

September 26, 2008 at 03:20 PM